



**JEFFERSON PARK EXPANSION**  
**PUBLIC MEETING #3 – Open House**  
**Saturday, February 4, 2006**  
Jefferson Community Center

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Staff Members  
Present:**

Randy Robinson, Project Manager  
Cheryl Fraser, Parks South Resource Manager

**Other Team Members  
present:  
Open House**

Greg Brower, The Berger Partnership

The purpose of the open house was to share the most recent design work with the public, especially citizens who have not had the opportunity to attend public meetings at night. Translated materials describing the project were available in Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

The open house began at 10 a.m. with the set up of the displays. There was a steady stream of people coming in until 2 p.m. – the designated ending time. Individuals, as well as whole families, came to the open house with lots of questions and comments about the park. Many visitors (about half) reported seeing the plan for the first time.

The focus of the open house was the current Schematic Design Plan. The consultant, The Berger Partnership, had on display the overall plan and several graphics depicting the views inside the proposed park. The Schematic Design Plan is an outgrowth of previous planning, such as the 2002 Conceptual Site Plan.

The Schematic Design Plan envisions an expansive park with large open spaces for passive and active recreation, many inviting pathways that offer spectacular views of downtown Seattle and the region, areas dedicated for families and children, interesting land forms, water features, and opportunities for art. The Schematic Design Plan strives to create a beautiful neighborhood park with regional attributes that reflect the diversity of the community.

Some elements of the Schematic Plan will advance to the next stage of design - Design Development. Budgetary factors will determine how many new park elements will be constructed as part of this project. Construction will begin in the spring of 2007 and continue into 2009. Budget for the Jefferson Park Expansion project is \$7.3 million, including funds from the Pro Parks Levy and the Cumulative Reserve Fund.

Some people visited briefly, many stayed for a longer time and wrote detailed comments. People were generally pleased about the progress and direction the project was going. There is widespread excitement in the neighborhood for the development of an expanded Jefferson Park.

While there were a wide range of questions and comments, the largest number dealt with the following topics:

- Entrances and connections to the neighborhood, especially at Lafayette Avenue
- Children's play area
- Water features
- Trees and other plant materials
- Picnic area
- Parking
- Sports fields and lighting
- Preserving night views with no lights

**Written Comments:**

1. *Provide picnic shelter that can be reserved and maybe a smaller one that doesn't need reservation. Use brick on shelter.*
2. *Include entry point final design in this process. We may get small package funding but we need integrated design of entry points. What is the point of a park without completed entry points?*
3. *In the southwest terrace area, to serve the dense population along 15<sup>th</sup> between Dakota and Spokane Streets: build a 3 sided large basketball court facility with many hoops. Note: see the Mercer Island Park on the "lid" courts off of West Mercer Way exit. They're built into the side of a hill – thus the 3 sides.*
4. *Please look at cleaning up the drainage south of the SW park entrance west of the City Wide Horticulture site. If this area could be developed to complete the sidewalk on the east side of 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. South there could also be more playfield parking added along the sidewalk and not take up more park area.*
5. *Need more parking closer to the playfields.*
6. *Keep the cricket field as is and do not add lights – this is an area too close to the residential for this. Put lights on sports plateau more central in the park and with less impact to local residents.*
7. *Preserve the view of the Olympics and Sound. No field lights in the sports area over the reservoir. But the field lights in Jefferson Field by Asa Mercer Middle School.*
8. *Soccer fields with lights will serve more people than the lawn bowling people. Beacon Hill soccer Club helps 300 kids. How many people play lawn bowling? The closest field with lights is Georgetown which is very dangerous for kids.*
9. *Too much sports fields already.*
10. *Bicycle connection between Chief Sealth Trail and Mountains to Sound Trail. PS: Great Plan!*

**Additional Information is Available:**

- Park web site: <http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks/proparks/projects/JeffersonPark.htm>
- Randy Robinson, Seattle Parks Project Manager, (206) 684-7035; [randy.robinson@seattle.gov](mailto:randy.robinson@seattle.gov)